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NPIC/TSSG/PPS-149-69

18 AUG 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Planning, Programming & Budgeting Staff, NPIC

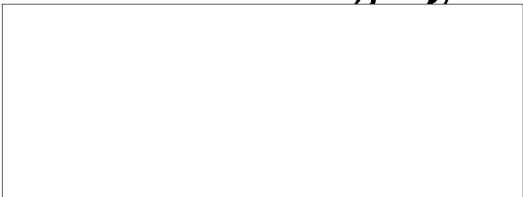
SUBJECT: Working Paper--"Definition of Management Information Needs"

1. The component Chiefs within TSSG have read the subject Working Paper and have collectively agreed that it is a good basic report; we have no actual criticism to offer; however, [REDACTED] RED have some comments which they consider appropriate. A copy of these statements are attached.

25X1

2. We agree with the approach and support the recommendations as listed. We believe you have accurately outlined the problem and selected the proper conclusion.

25X1



Colonel, USAF

Deputy Chief, Technical Services & Support Group, NPIC

Attachments:

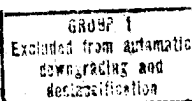
As stated above

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TSSG/ESD-64/69
15 August 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Technical Services & Support Group, NPIC

ATTENTION: [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT: ESD Comments on the [REDACTED] MIS Paper

25X1

1. I have reviewed the extracts from the subject paper you provided and generally find this to be a very good report. It is short, incisive and realistic; I assume that the remainder of the report is similar, and if this is true, the paper should provide valuable reference material for the future.

2. There are two minor points on which I don't agree. Neither is worthy of making a major issue over or recommending action beyond these comments.

a. The first, concerns the use of the MIS as an instrument of operational control as discussed at the top of page 5 and again at the top of page 6 in the main report. I view this as a line function which is not likely to benefit from centralized automation. Apparently [REDACTED] also tempered his thinking on this point because it does not come through in the conclusions and recommendations.

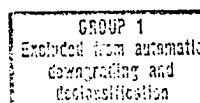
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b. The second, concerns the disclaimer excusing top management from backing a system which doesn't work in the middle of page 7 of main report. The Executive Director, certainly cannot be expected to examine operational techniques in depth and correct deficiencies, but he can be expected to keep his managers honest by sampling operational techniques, to surface problem areas needing attention. This is also a valid staff function but sampling must be directed by top management. Once problems are identified then appropriate resources can be allocated to correct the deficiencies.

25X1

[REDACTED]
Chief, Engineering Support Division, TSSG

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15 August 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Projects and Programs Staff, TSSG, NPIC

SUBJECT: Comments on [] Management Information System
Working Paper

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1. I believe the MIS Report is a very well written and well thought out document. I find little in it with which RED could argue, we can readily concur in [] feeling that we should support it.

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2. Comments with regard to RED experience are:

a. To be really efficient, such a system must take into account the cost of acquiring the data inputted. The man hours required to obtain the data may not be profitable.

b. To be helpful to RED in the management of its Research & Development Programs, the system must have more of the flexibility that [] referred to. Not only do we require data, but we need data which can be obtained in a multiplicity of formats and cross correlations and this must be (as the paper defined) "timely" or the whole process is useless. I can see two tempting future applications one, in the planning and programming and budgeting of our Research & Development Programs and the other is helping to maintain up-to-date contract and program status information. However, there are some problems in this area, because of the current trend to put all of this information into a common Agency system. In summation, a well written and thought provoking document and RED feels that we should support it.

25X1

[]
Deputy Chief, Research & Engineering Division,
TSSG, NPIC

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